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District of Arizona*

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79-YEAR-OLD MAN SENTENCED FOR VIOLATING AZ PROBATION AFTER ATTEMPTING TO LURE 15-YEAR-OLD GIRL INTO HIS CAR

TUCSON, Ariz. – Edward Everett Hardy, 79, of Randolph, Mass, was sentenced here late last week to two years in prison by U.S. District Judge John M. Roll. Hardy was convicted in August 2005 for attempting to lure a 15-year-old girl at a Massachusetts bus stop into his car. This was the fourth probation violation for Hardy who had initially pleaded guilty in 2000 in U.S. District Court on sexual abuse charges and had been placed on probation by Judge Roll.

When Hardy attempted to lure the girl into his car at a bus stop, she wrote down the license plate number of Hardy's car and called her mother using a cell phone. Her mother called the police immediately. Hardy tried to evade police but was captured. Hardy was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of enticing a child under 16 years of age. He was sentenced to 90 days jail in Massachusetts.

Other probation violations involved a conviction in Florida for attempted lewd and lascivious contact with a 14-year-old girl by fondling her breasts after offering to give her a ride. Additionally, he accosted and annoyed a 16-year-old girl by loitering in front of her and gesturing in an attempt to lure her into his vehicle. Another incident involved soliciting a prostitute.

Just four days before committing the recent attempt to lure the 15-year-old, he had approached a 24-year-old female in Massachusetts asking her if she needed a ride. He was cited with accosting and annoying a person of the opposite sex, but the charge was later dismissed. He was warned by his probation officer to not offer females rides in his car, but then four days later he tried to lure the 15-year-old.

The sentencing occurred on Thursday, April 20, 2006. The investigation in this case was conducted by the Waltham, Mass. Police Department and the U.S. Probation Offices in Massachusetts and Arizona. The prosecution was handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-98-0221
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